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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1A

COUNTRY Yugoslavia/Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 18 December 1951

SUBJECT Bulgarian Emigrant Society of Macedonia

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PLACE  
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INFO. [REDACTED]**DO NOT CIRCULATE**SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X  
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1. The Yugoslav-sponsored Bulgarian Emigrant Society of Macedonia, with headquarters at 10 Cetinska Ulica, Skopje, is made up primarily of Bulgarian refugees of the Pirin district. Although this organization is a part of the national Bulgarian Emigrant Society with headquarters in Belgrade, it enjoys a certain autonomy since the propaganda line adopted by the Yugoslavs in Macedonia differs from that of the national organization.
2. In Macedonia the Yugoslavs are trying to persuade the Bulgarian Macedonians that they are Macedonians first and Bulgarians second and that their future lies in a "greater Macedonia" under Yugoslav protection. They take great pains to point out the advantages, such as the schools, newspapers, and the public services conducted in the Macedonian language, which are sponsored by the Yugoslav Government in contrast to attempts to eradicate Macedonian culture on the part of the Bulgarians in the Pirin district.
3. Until early 1951 Yugoslav propaganda had a certain success with the emigrants but they gradually became disgusted with the Yugoslavs when they realized that the main interest of the Yugoslavs rested in recruiting the refugees as intelligence and propaganda agents to be sent back to Bulgaria. Casualties amongst these line-crossers were high and the Yugoslavs began to force the refugees to go on the missions by threats of jail or beatings. By May 1951, over 60 of these agents had been killed crossing the frontier, or failed to return from their missions.
4. In early 1951 propaganda tracts from the Bulgarian National Committee (BNC) in Western Europe began to appear in Skopje and by Summer 1951 a clandestine section of the BNC had been formed. This has coincided with loss of prestige of the Yugoslav-sponsored Emigrant Society so that now at its meetings, which the refugees are forced to attend, there is open debate and opposition to its policies.

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5. The leadership of the Bulgarian Emigrant Society of Macedonia is as follows:

President: Mara Mezdurechka, age 30, from the Gorna Dzhumaya district of Bulgaria.

Vice-President: Radoi Spasov, 35 years of age, and deputy Minister of Finance for Macedonia.

Treasurer: Metodi Zubchev, 24 years of age, from the village of Krupnik, district of Gorna Dzhumaya.

Secretary: Serafim (last name unknown), 20 years of age, from the district of Petrich.

Members: Petra Gockova, 24 years of age; trusted by the Yugoslavs. He replaces Mezdurechka when the latter is absent.

Ivan Kantardzhiev, 25 years of age.

Kiril Slavski, 25 years of age, from the district of Razlog. He is editor of the Voice of Pirin, a monthly publication of the Society.

Control Commission: Lyuben Haidushki, 28 years of age, from the district of Gorna Dzhumaya. There are two other members whose names are not known.

6. The offices of the Society consist of three rooms and are occupied by Mezdurechka, Slavski, "Serafim" (last name unknown) and Zubchev who work there permanently. The Society has been one of the principal targets of Bulgarian intelligence agents operating in Macedonia and one group of three agents has been apprehended; its mission was the assassination of Mezdurechka.

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**Comment:** Your attention is directed to the following disseminations concerning Bulgarian refugee activities in Yugoslavia and Bulgaria:

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